

## DAIRY RESEARCH

PRO-DAIRY

By Julie Berry

This month's  
The Manager  
from PRO-DAIRY  
focuses on dairy  
research.

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## Research horizons

The research issue of The Manager is a time to take stock of practices on your farm. To look at areas you'd like to improve. And to get a sneak peak at what's coming down the pipeline. The dairy industry is energizing because it is constantly evolving and constantly growing. Some of that happens through pure ingenuity on the farm. Some of it happens because of applied research on the farm. What's clear is that it requires partnerships of all types. This issue features partnerships between researchers, organizations, industry, and most importantly, with farms. Research presented in this issue has an eye toward being practical, making farms more efficient and profitable with healthy cows, and producing high quality dairy products.

Transition cow biology and management continues to be a major theme of research across the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Veterinary Medicine at Cornell. Research from the groups of Drs. Tom Overton, Daryl Nydam and Jessica McArt highlight opportunities for nutritional programs for dry cows that improve cow health and colostrum quality, nutritional strategies for fresh cows that improve cow performance and health, and new thoughts on monitoring blood calcium in fresh cows. Results from an ongoing transition cow nutrition and management field study suggest opportunity to improve feeding management of dry cow rations and management of hyperketonemia. New economic analyses suggest that up to 70% of the costs of losses from hyperketonemia are overlooked.

Dairy cattle reproduction and health is also featured. Dr. Julio Giordano, Cornell's new Assistant Professor of Dairy Cattle Biology and Management, presents the first results from his program that provide recommendations to ensure maximum insemination during rebreeding. He also highlights two ongoing commercial farm studies that are determining whether extending the voluntary waiting period affects reproduction, performance and profitability, and whether the use of activity and rumination monitors in fresh cows improves disease detection.

Research from Quality Milk Production Services indicates that 24-hour culture results may be as effective as 48-hour results for use in mastitis

treatment. Nicole Martin from the Milk Quality Improvement Program at Cornell connects the impact of farm management strategies with spore-forming bacteria in raw milk and quality of dairy products.

This section also contains examples of true interdisciplinary research. Dr. Larry Chase, Cornell Department of Animal Science, provides an update on a five-year project involving animal scientists, nutrient management specialists, engineers and others from seven universities, four USDA research facilities, two companies and the Innovation Center for US Dairy that is focused on reduction of gas emissions in the Great Lakes region.

Dr. Dave Barbano, Cornell Department of Food Science, is leading an interdisciplinary group to evaluate how enhanced analysis of milk components can lead to improved feeding and management programs on farms.

### FYI

■ Julie Berry edits The Manager for PRO-DAIRY. Email her at [jrb7@cornell.edu](mailto:jrb7@cornell.edu).

### Save the date!

Register at <http://pro dairy.cals.cornell.edu/>

#### Operations Managers Conference

*In collaboration with Northeast Dairy Producers Association.* This conference provides an opportunity to increase management and operations skills and time to network with other managers. Sessions will be followed by a tour.

■ January 20 - 21, Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY

#### Herd Health and Nutrition Conference

*In collaboration with Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance.* This conference is attended by nearly 300 agriservice professionals, feed industry representatives, veterinarians and dairy producers.

■ March 17, Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY

■ March 19, Essex Resort and Spa, Essex Junction, VT

The Manager, a special section prepared by PRO-DAIRY specialists appears in *DairyBusiness East* four times a year. In keeping with the PRO-DAIRY mission, The Manager helps strengthen the management skills of dairy producers and increase the profitability of the dairy industry. PRO-DAIRY, an educational program begun in 1988, is a joint venture of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Northeast agriservice organizations. For reprints of PRO-DAIRY's The Manager, contact Heather Darrow, 272 Morrison Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. Phone: 607. 255.4478 Email: [hh96@cornell.edu](mailto:hh96@cornell.edu)